

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

August 21, 2023

The Council of the City of Lima met in regular session at 7:00 p.m.

Attending were: Mayor Sharetta Smith; Tony Geiger, Law Director; Eric Pheneger, Deputy Law Director; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Shane Coleman, Chief of Staff, Della Bradford, Dir. of Human Resources; Amber Martin, Workforce & Small Business Dev. Coordinator; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Sara Weekley, Deputy Dir. of Util.; Kirk Niemeyer, Dir. of Public Works; Warner Roach, Deputy Public Works Dir.; Jessica Begonia, Public Information Officer; Police Major Ron Holman, Deputy Fire Chief Jack McDermitt; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

The invocation was given by Councilor Gordon followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL showed the following members present: Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Absent: Thompson and Dixon.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting not read since each received a copy;
- b. Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held August 8, 2023;
- c. Bd. of Health Minutes of July 14, 2023;
- d. Treasurer's Report of July 31, 2023.

Gordon moved that items "a and b" of the consent calendar be received, filed, and approved and that items "c and d" be received and filed, seconded by Wilkerson, motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Division of Liquor Control regarding a liquor permit application for 127 N. Pierce Street. Councilor Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, to authorize the Clerk to file an objection and request for hearing to be held in the City of Lima with the Ohio Division of Liquor Control. Motion carried.
2. From the Auditor regarding the July, 2023 Financial Report.
3. From the Mayor regarding legislation to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lima Community Foundation.
4. From the Acting Finance Dir. regarding amending the 2023 annual budget.

August 21, 2023

5. From the Fire Chief regarding legislation to sell a vehicle and misc. equipment through govdeals.com.

6. From the Fire Chief regarding legislation to accept and administer an award from the American Rescue Plan.

7. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to request, bid and award a contract for the purchase of the Utility Billing Envelopes.

8. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend Ord. 218-20.

9. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to authorize additional payment to purchase a Pentair Aurora Split Case Pump for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Councilor Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, that Communications No. 2 through 9 be received, filed, approved and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare any necessary legislation. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

President Nixon moved, seconded by Gordon, to let the record reflect that Councilor Thompson and Councilor Dixon are absent and will not be included in roll call votes. Motion carried.

165-23 (SECOND READING) An Ordinance authorizing all actions necessary to establish a governmental natural gas aggregation program with opt-out provision pursuant to Section 4929.26 Ohio Revised Code and directing the Allen County Board of Elections to submit a ballot question to the electors. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be tabled indefinitely and referred to the Utilities Committee. President Nixon clarified the ordinance was put on after seeing the success of voters accepting the electrical aggregation. He had asked the Mayor to look into the natural gas aggregation and the deadline to get the issue on the November ballot has passed. He explained there are also other things that need to be reviewed prior to finalizing the Ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance is tabled indefinitely and will be placed in the Utilities Committee.

President Nixon moved, seconded by Gordon, to let the record reflect that Councilor Thompson and Councilor Dixon are absent and will not be included in roll call votes. Motion carried.

August 21, 2023

170-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Auditor to accept funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – First Responders Wellness, Recruitment, Retention & Resiliency Grant Program for the Lima Fire Department and Lima Police Department. Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

171-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with govdeals.com or otherwise dispose of a vehicle and miscellaneous equipment for the Lima Fire Department. Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

172-23 An Ordinance authorizing the second amendment to the contract to purchase trucks for the Utilities Department, authorized under Ordinance 218-20. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

173-23 An Ordinance amending the 2023 annual budget. Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

174-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Lima Community Foundation and others regarding funds for the operation of the Lima Community Aquatic Center. Ehora moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

175-23 An Ordinance approving the appointment of Janis Saunderhaus to the Allen County Board of Public Health. Wilkerson moved, seconded by Ehora, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Gordon expressed his condolences to the families of Jackie Fox and Tom Tebben who were both amazing people to the community. He explained Tom was a mentor to him and very important to his role as a Council member. He referenced the upcoming heat and encouraged the public to check on their neighbors and family. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, to authorize the absence and salary of Councilor Dixon and Councilor Thompson. Motion carried. He reminded people to be good to each other.

Councilor Wilkerson offered his condolences to the families of Jackie Fox and Tom Tebben. He commended parents who were walking their children to school or standing with their children at the bus stops. He explained it is refreshing to know that our parents are 100% involved in their children and their education. He reminded everyone that they are not bigger than the weather and asked them to be kind and smart.

Councilor Ehora explained it was a horrific weekend for the people of Lima, Ohio with the loss of two people who have given so much to this community. She extended her condolences to the families of Jackie Fox and Tom Tebben. She explained Tom was a person she called when she was going to run for Council, is the person who was always available to talk to and gave sound advice. She explained Jackie has been doing God's work in this community for as long as she's been here and was in the trenches with those that needed help the most in the community. She encouraged everyone to check on neighbors, family and pets over the next few days.

Councilor Glenn referenced the death of Tom Tebben and Jackie Fox and explained it was a tough weekend for the City. He explained they were both trailblazers for the community and their loss hurts. He extended prayers to both the Tebben and Fox family. He thanked the Mayor and her administration for coming through the 6th Ward. He said they had fun walking the Ward and taking care of business at the same time. He thanked Mr. Roach for taking care of trees that came down from the storm. He advised they will be having the first annual Teachers' Appreciation Banquet at the Howard Johnson on Saturday August 26th. He advised the air conditioner program is over but they still have air conditioner donations being made. He further advised the rent a kid program has come to an end.

Councilor Neeper extended his condolences to the Fox family and the Tebben family. He explained this week is the fair and reminded everyone to be careful with the high heat. He asked everyone to be mindful of the children going back to school.

President Nixon extended his condolences to the Tebben family and the Tebben extended family as well as the Fox family. He explained it was a shock to hear the news of Tom and Jackie's passing. He encouraged everyone to attend the fair and particularly support the youth and their projects. He referenced the high heat and expressed the importance of staying hydrated with water. He encouraged everyone to remember Labor Day and not forget those in the working force who

August 21, 2023

Labor Day celebrates.

Gordon moved, seconded by Glenn, to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of real estate. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Glenn, Neepier and Nixon. Nay, none. Motion carried. Council adjourned into executive session.

Gordon moved, seconded by Neepier, to adjourn from executive session. Motion carried.

Gordon moved that Council adjourn until September 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Ehora, motion carried.


Dana Addis, Clerk


John G. Nixon, President